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SOURCE Magyar Kozlony.

DECREES NATIONALIZE BUILDINGS, DEFINE CAPITALISTS

ISSUES DECREE ON BUILDINGS -- Magyar Kozlony, 17 Feb 52

The following is a summary of decree No 4/1952 of the Presidential Council relative to the nationalization of certain buildings.

Since some owners have failed to perform even the most necessary maintenance work on their properties, the value of the buildings, which constitute a part of the people's economy, is rapidly deteriorating. To protect the buildings from deterioration and to eliminate unearned income accruing to the former ruling classes, nationalization of the following buildings is decreed:

Privately owned buildings, including apartment houses, villas, leaseholds in perpetuity, business and industrial buildings, warehouses, etc., which are leased to others in whole or in part and buildings of capitalists and other exploiters [defined in decree No 14 below], even if the properties are not leased.

If the owner does not reside permanently in the building, all his personal property found in the nationalized building will also be taken over by the state. If two or more units of a nationalized building have been leased for recreational purposes during the period 1950 - 1952, the equipment of these units is nationalized against compensation. Buildings having not more than six rooms will not be nationalized if the owner is a wage earner, artist, member of a trade cooperative, or pensioner, provided that he does not own other buildings.

A worker is entitled to retain, in addition to his permanent dwelling, a recreational building, even if it is not used by him or his family.

Buildings of artisans and small merchants, consisting of not more than five rooms and occupied by the owner, will not be nationalized. Buildings of a working peasant consisting of not more than six rooms and occupied by the owner, as well as an additional building owned by the same peasant and rented to others, is not subject to nationalization. For the purpose of this decree, farms and farm building of working peasants are not regarded as buildings.

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Buildings owned by social organizations and cooperatives as well as by foreign states, are exempt from nationalization.

Provisions of this decree do not affect agreements concluded between the state and the churches. Buildings of a kulak consisting of not more than five rooms and occupied by the owner, as well as the kulak's farm buildings, are exempt from nationalization.

Buildings of members of building cooperatives may not be nationalized. Jointly owned property is exempt from nationalization. Perpetual lease on dwelling or business property is subject to the regulations of the present decree. The Minister of Interior may, in justified cases, exempt certain buildings from nationalization.

Compensation will be awarded for all nationalized buildings. The amount and method of compensation will be defined in a special decree.

All registered and unregistered claims against nationalized properties, excepting easements, become void. State claims against the owners of nationalized buildings excepting loans granted by the National Building Reconstruction Fund, will remain in force.

The status of tenants and employees of nationalized building properties will remain unchanged.

If the former owner occupies part of the nationalized building, he will be regarded as a tenant and must pay rent beginning 1 January 1953. Until the latter date, he is required to assume the proportionate part of accrued taxes and assessments. Employees of nationalized buildings, such as janitors, firemen, etc., will have the status of public officials, effective on the day of nationalization. Owners of nationalized buildings are required, within 3 days from the date this decree becomes effective, to report in writing the registration data of the properties to the executive committee of the city or town council. If the owner does not reside in the nationalized building, the building superintendent or the tenant who has resided there longest shall submit the report.

Owners of the nationalized properties, or their representatives (building manager, superintendent, etc.), or users of the properties are responsible for the proper care of the nationalized building and personal properties until the state takes possession.

Violators of the present decree are subject to the provisions of Decree No 24/1950 of the Council of Ministers concerning the protection of state properties. Failure to report is punishable by imprisonment not exceeding 3 years.

Execution of the present resolution is the responsibility of the Council of Ministers, which may delegate its authority to the Ministry of Interior and other ministries.

DEFINES CONCEPT OF "CAPITALIST" -- Magyar Kozlony, 17 Feb 52

Decree No 14/17 February 1952, of the Council of Ministers, implementing the foregoing Decree No 4/1952 of the Presidential Council, defines the concept of "capitalist" as follows:

Exploiters and oppressor elements of the overthrown social order; former owners of the nationalized factories and mines; former bankers, landowners, wholesale merchants, stock exchange brokers as well as their highly placed

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former employees, such as factory directors, attorneys-in-fact, estate directors, etc.; former Horthy regime generals and staff officers, gendarme and police officers; high ranking former state officials, such as ministers, deputy ministers, department heads, ministerial councilors, megye administrators, chief jaras clerks, mayors, chief city clerks and councilmen and high-ranking officials of other state offices and organizations; former privy and government councilors; members of the Upper House and House of Representatives; persons convicted for war crimes and crimes against the people, even if they have served their sentences; and spouses of all the above named persons.

Persons having important positions or performing important tasks in the service of the state (enterprise, institution) are expected from the foregoing classification.

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